

Rob Fleming
Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure
Minister.MOTI@gov.bc.ca

RE: École North Oyster Elementary Active School Travel Project

To the Honourable Rob Fleming;

On behalf of the Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools’ Board of Education (“Board”) I write to request reconsideration of your Ministry’s decision to not support recommendations put forward by a Stakeholder Committee in reference to École North Oyster Elementary’s *Active School Travel Project*.

Background

Issues at the school include poor accommodation on school site for daily transportation demands, insufficient parking, vehicle speeds in school zones, ineffective signage, unsafe crossing, insufficient lighting, unsafe roadway for users, and shortage of road safety awareness and training for students and families.

A School Travel Action Plan was completed in 2019 and a Stakeholder Committee was put together, including District Staff, Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure (MOTI), ICBC and District Facilities staff, to make recommendations based on the Plan.

Committee recommendations as presented along with MOTI decision:

PRIORITY	NOTIONAL COST	STAKEHOLDER	STAKEHOLDER DECISION
1. Parking Lot Addition	\$35,000	SD68	Approved in Principle
2. Dynamic Speed Signs on SD68 property	\$45,000	SD68	Approved in Principle
3. Asphalt Pathway (from x-walk to front entrance of ENO)	\$15,000	SD68	Approved in Principle
4. Promote Parking at NOCC	0	ENO	Ongoing
5. Protect Parking entrances with barriers	\$10,000	SD68	Approved in Principle
6. Promote Bus Usage	0	ENO	Ongoing
7. Additional Street Lighting	Unknown	ENO	Approved in Principle
8. Permanent Bollards on Roadway	N/A	MOTI	Not Supported
9. Rumble Strips on Roadway	N/A	MOTI	Not Supported
10. Speed Humps on Roadway	N/A	MOTI	Not Supported
11. Painting on Roadway (School Zone Indicator)	N/A	MOTI	Not Supported
12. Pedestrian Activated X-Walk	N/A	MOTI	Not Supported
13. Dynamic Speed Signs on MOTI property	N/A	MOTI	Not Supported
Total Notional Budget	\$105,000		

To date, the school district has completed:

- The placement of an adult Crossing Guard
- #2 – Installation of dynamic speed sign on school property
- #3 – Installing an asphalt pathway from the crosswalk to the front entrance of school
- #5 – Installing barriers to protect parking entrances

- Lease renewal with the North Oyster Community Centre which includes the use of their parking lot for Drop-off and Pick-up in exchange for water supply and snow clearing

To date, NLPS has funded approximately \$38,000 on improvements and \$12,000 per year in Crossing Guard expenses on the Active School Travel Project.

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Once again, the Board respectfully requests that the Ministry reconsider the priorities previously not supported as it feels Ministry support is needed to address community concerns and ensure students make it to and from school safely.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg Keller". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "G" and "K".

Greg Keller
Board Chair